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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,880	02/27/2002	Nina Lewis	255/221	7239

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EXAMINER

GANDHI, DIPAKKUMAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2138

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,880

Applicant(s)

LEWIS, NINA

Examiner

Dipakkumar Gandhi

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10 and 43 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11-42 and 44-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration filed on 12/21/2005 has been reviewed.
2. Amendment filed on 12/21/2005 (including amendment to the claims) has been entered.
3. Applicant's arguments filed on 12/21/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
4. The applicant contends, "As per claims 1 and 39, Cohen et al., Moriconi et al. and Gavrilu et al. do not teach storing database user authorization in a central directory that is connected to one or more databases, the database user authorization comprising a user role, the user role comprising one or more privileges."

The examiner disagrees and would like to point out that Cohen et al. teach that according to the invention, the single sign-on mechanism preferably uses a "data model" where information used to sign on to applications is kept in two separate databases. The first database is the PKM 24, which is preferably a global database and is thus accessible from all client machines in a given domain. The PKM 24, as noted above, keeps user configuration information. The second database is the CIM 22, which is preferably a local database and is thus accessible only from the current client machine. The CIM need not be merely a local database, however. Each client machine from which the SSO support is provided runs a CIM. Thus, multiple instances of CIM 22 are illustrated in FIG. 2. Likewise, each client machine preferably also runs an instance of the logon coordinator 26. Thus, for example, the PKM 24 contains user-specific application data, which includes: Target name--uniquely identifying a user "target", Target type--specifies what type of "application" this target is; Domain/Host/Application name--specifies application information, specific for this target; User ID--specifies user id on target; Key information--specifies the user's key (password) on the target; User preferences--specifies user specific information for this target; and Preferred program name--specifies a preferred CIM entry to use with this target (fig. 2, col. 5, lines 16-44, Cohen et al.).

Moriconi et al. teach that an object, such as an application or a database, typically has its own list of users. These are users who can log on to the object and be authenticated by the objects, sometimes through an external authentication server. In a large system, users are preferably maintained separately

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by one or more directory servers. Users are preferably extracted from objects or directory servers, and are maintained up-to-date by synchronizing with these objects and directory servers (col. 7, lines 4-11, Moriconi et al.). Moriconi et al. also teach that users of an object may be defined as being local to that object. In a typical system, the same user is often represented by different login identifications in different objects. This system may support the notion of a "global" user to capture this situation. Every global user is mapped to a set of local users, one per object. Global users facilitate the centralized management of users throughout the system, even if they are identified by different names in different objects (col. 7, lines 25-33, Moriconi et al.). Moriconi et al. teach that a privilege defines the kinds of access that may be allowed on objects. In the preferred embodiment, a privilege is the right to perform a particular action on a specific object. The kinds of privileges that apply to an object depend on the type of the object. Examples of privileges include the right to execute an application, the right to download a web page, the right to query a database table, or the right to view a menu item. Privileges are granted to users so they can accomplish tasks required for their job. A privilege should be granted to a user only when it is absolutely required for the user to accomplish a task. Excessive granting of unnecessary privileges may lead to compromised security. A user may receive a privilege in two different ways, privileges can be granted to users explicitly (for example, user SMITH can be granted the privilege to execute the payroll application), or privileges can be granted to a role (a named group of privileges), which is then granted to one or more users (for example, a role named "clerk" can be granted the privilege to execute the payroll application, and user SMITH can be granted the clerk role). Roles are named groups of privileges that are granted to users or other roles. Users granted to a role are the members of that role. A role is often used to represent the set of privileges needed to perform a job function. The members of a role automatically inherit all the privileges granted or denied to the role (col. 7, lines 34-60, Moriconi et al.).

5. The applicant contends, "The office action has not identified where a motivation to combine Cohen and Moriconi can be found."

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so

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found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Cohen et al. teach a single sign-on mechanism to enable a given user to access a target application on a target resource in a distributed computer enterprise. One or more configuration directives each identifying a given logon process and any associated methods required to access the target application on the target resource are stored in a global accessible database (abstract, Cohen et al.). Moriconi et al. teach a system and method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment that comprises a policy manager located on a server and a global policy specifies access privileges of the user to securable components. The policy manager distributes a local client policy based on the global policy to the client (abstract, Moriconi et al.). Combining Cohen et al. and Moriconi et al. references would provide the opportunity to provide additional global security in protecting the data using different roles for different users.

6. The applicant contends, "As per claim 19, impermissible hindsight is applied in the office action for providing reasons to combine four references."

The examiner disagrees and would like to point out that so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

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1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
  2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
  3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
  4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
9. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al. (US 6,178,511 B1) in view of Moriconi et al. (US 6,158,010). For details, please see the office action mailed on 09/19/2005.
10. Claims 2-4, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al. (US 6,178,511 B1) and Moriconi et al. (US 6,158,010) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ferguson et al. (US 2002/0082818 A1). For details, please see the office action mailed on 09/19/2005.
11. Claims 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al. (US 6,178,511 B1), Moriconi et al. (US 6,158,010) and Ferguson et al. (US 2002/0082818 A1) as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Gavrilă et al. (US 2002/0026592 A1). For details, please see the office action mailed on 09/19/2005.
12. Claims 19-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al. (US 6,178,511 B1) in view of Moriconi et al. (US 6,158,010), Ferguson et al. (US 2002/0082818 A1) and Gavrilă et al. (US 2002/0026592 A1). For details, please see the office action mailed on 09/19/2005.
13. Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al. (US 6,178,511 B1) in view of Moriconi et al. (US 6,158,010) and Gavrilă et al. (US 2002/0026592 A1). For details, please see the office action mailed on 09/19/2005.
14. Claims 40-42, 44-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cohen et al. (US 6,178,511 B1), Moriconi et al. (US 6,158,010) and Gavrilă et al. (US 2002/0026592 A1) as applied to claim 39 above, and further in view of Ferguson et al. (US 2002/0082818 A1). For details, please see the office action mailed on 09/19/2005.

**Conclusion**

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dipakkumar Gandhi whose telephone number is 571-272-3822. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dipakkumar Gandhi  
Patent Examiner



**GUY LAMARRE**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**